

Appl. No. : 09/808,612
Filed : March 14, 2001

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 26 and 29 – 35 were pending in the application. By this paper, Claims 1 – 32 and 35 have been cancelled without prejudice, and new Claims 36 – 61 have been added. Accordingly, Claims 33, 34 and 36 – 61 are presented herein for examination.

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Allowed Claims

Pursuant to Page 11 of the Office Action, Claims 33 and 34 stand allowed.

New Claims

10 By this paper, Applicant has added new Claims 36 – 61. Applicant submits that Claims 36 – 45 depend either directly or indirectly on allowed Claim 33, are fully supported by the specification as filed, and hence are in condition for allowance.

Further, new independent Claims 46, 49 and 61 all generally relate to subject matter in allowed independent Claim 33, and hence Applicant respectfully submits that these independent
15 claims are in condition for allowance as well.

Dependent Claims 47, 48 and 50 – 60 depend from these newly added independent claims and are therefore are also in condition for allowance.

§103 Rejections

20 **Claims 1, 14, 19 – 24 and 31** – Per page 4 of the Office Action, Claims 1, 14, 19 – 24 and 31 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Wygodny et al. (US Pat. No. 6,282,701, hereinafter “Wygodny”) in view of Dearth et al. (US Pat. No. 6,117,181, hereinafter “Dearth”). By this paper, Applicant has cancelled Claims 1, 14, 19 – 24 and 31 without prejudice, thereby rendering the Examiner’s rejections moot.

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Claims 2 – 13 and 15 – 18 – Per page 6 of the Office Action, Claims 2 – 13 and 15 – 18 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Wygodny in view of Dearth and further in view of Davis et al. (US Pat. No. 6,230,307, hereinafter “Davis”). By this paper, Applicant has cancelled Claims 2 – 13 and 15 – 18 without prejudice, thereby rendering the Examiner’s rejections moot.

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Claims 31, 32 and 35 – Per page 10 of the Office Action, Claims 31, 32 and 35 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Wygodny in view of Dearth and further in view of Katzeff (US Pat. No. 5,101,491, hereinafter “Katzeff”). By this paper, Applicant has cancelled Claims 31, 32 and 35 without prejudice, thereby rendering the Examiner’s rejections moot.

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Other Remarks

Applicant hereby specifically reserves the rights to prosecute claims of different or broader scope, including those cancelled herein, in a continuation or divisional application.

Applicant notes that any claim cancellations or additions made herein and not
10 substantively discussed above are made solely for the purposes of more clearly and particularly describing and claiming the invention, and not for purposes of overcoming art. The Examiner should infer no (i) adoption of a position with respect to patentability, (ii) change in the Applicant’s position with respect to any claim or subject matter of the invention, or (iii) acquiescence in any way to any position taken by the Examiner, based on such cancellations or
15 additions.

Furthermore, any remarks made herein with respect to a given claim or amendment are intended only in the context of that specific claim or amendment, and should not be applied to other claims, amendments, or aspects of Applicant’s invention.

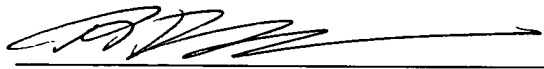
If the Examiner has any questions or comments which may be resolved over the
20 telephone, he is requested to call the undersigned at (858) 675-1670.

Respectfully submitted,

GAZDZINSKI & ASSOCIATES

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Dated: May 24, 2006

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